

PBE & IFC spar over key points

*Did PBE haze?
Were the judicial
proceedings fair?*

By Joanna Kao
STAFF REPORTER

Several details have surfaced regarding the Phi Beta Epsilon (PBE) suspension. PBE alumni continue to send letters to *The Tech*, Dean of Student Life Chris Colombo, and President Susan Hockfield. IFC president, Ryan Schoen '11 said that the PBE hazing took place between last fall's pledging, through and including initiation (January 2010).

PBE and the IFC continue to disagree on several key issues related to PBE's suspension:

1. Hazing

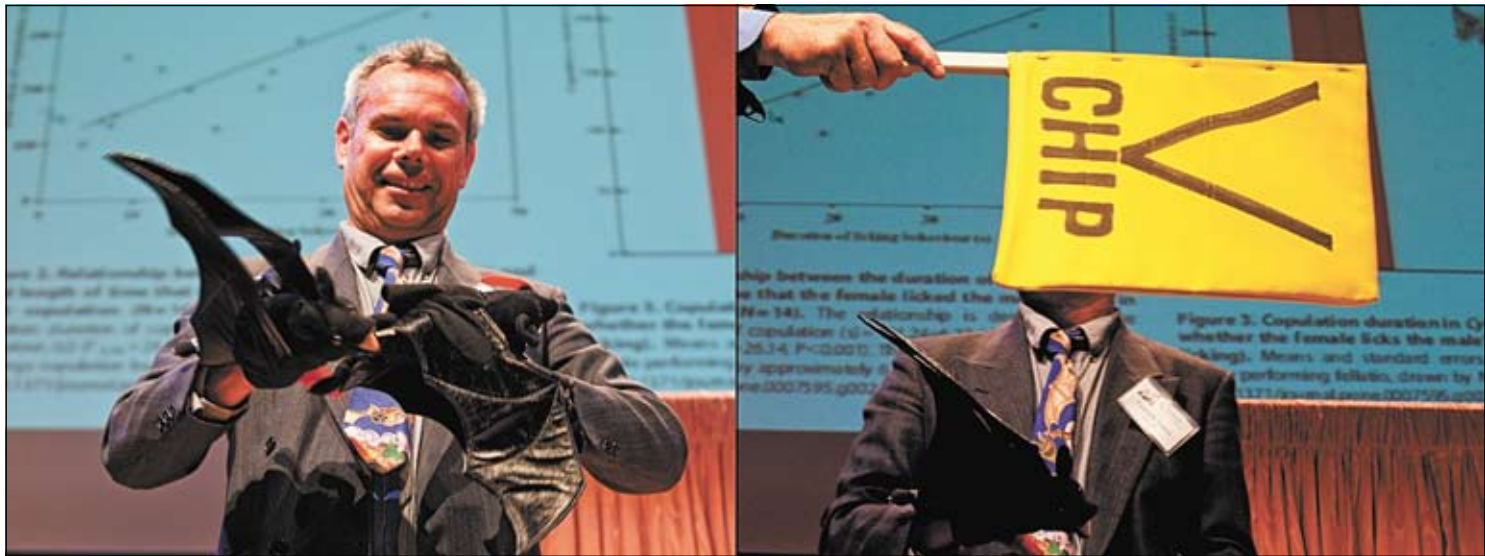
IFC: "We follow the Massachusetts state law," Schoen said. "Consent is not a valid excuse for hazing. ... In this case, there was no ambiguity in the mind of the JudComm board members."

"We had documents from PBE describing their initiation. They went through their initiation at the hearing describing everything that we had in front of us, and it was a unanimous decision from all the board members that they were responsible for hazing," said Garrett R. Fritz '11, chair of the IFC Judicial Committee.

PBE: PBE alumni, parents, and actives continue to say that they did not participate in any hazing activities. "We firmly believe we didn't violate the Massachusetts Law," Arjun Naskar '09, former president of PBE and a current director of the PBE alumni corporation said.

"No one was hurt in this process. No one came forward with a complaint with this initial charge in the first place, no one came forward afterward as well," Naskar said. There was "nothing physical and no complaint whatsoever."

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BIYEUN M. BUCZYK—THE TECH

Gareth Jones of the University of Bristol uses hand puppets to explain how bats perform oral sex on each other, before being censored by the "V-chip" at the Ig Nobel Awards Ceremony on Thursday. Jones won the Ig Nobel Prize in Biology for documenting fellatio in fruit bats. The 2010 Ig Nobel Lectures will take place in 10-250 on Saturday.

Bacteria and bat sex at Ig Nobels last night

By Stan Gill

Have you ever wondered if bats fellate each other?

"We were BLOWN away by the results," Gareth Jones, a member of the team that won the 2010 Ig Nobel prize in Biology. He and his team were researching the lives of the common fruit bat, and in the

course of their research, they discovered something intimate: This species of bat enjoys oral sex.

Jones came prepared with a video and hand puppets to demonstrate their findings, but were promptly shooed off stage by the V-Chip Monitor (don't ask).

At the Ig Nobels, which celebrate the weirdest and most inter-

esting discoveries in the past year, "weird" barely begins to describe the proceedings. Last night, there was an accordion-playing duo wearing one dress, guys dressed up as savages holding flashlights, and a plea to hold off on throwing the paper airplanes (provided to all in attendance) in the first five minutes of this awards "ceremony" known

as the 20th First Annual Ig Nobel Awards.

In a delightful ceremony (attended by such dignitaries as the King and Queen of Swedish Meatballs) that jumps from winner to opera to moments of science in a seemingly spontaneous fashion,

Ig Nobels, Page 9

HASS system gets simpler

Freshmen try out a streamlined, more flexible humanities requirement that does away with HASS-Ds and the lottery

By Anne Cai and Niki Castle

"The new HASS system is very flexible. It's not a pain in the 'HASS,'" said Rui Hu '12.

This fall marks a major and much-discussed changes as the HASS-D (Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences Distribution) system begins to be phased out. Starting with the Class of 2014, the five distribution areas have replaced by three categories: Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences. There is no longer a lottery for the classes, either.

These changes are intended to give students more flexibility to choose classes they are interested in.

"Through the HASS Distribution, we wanted students to learn the different

ways of knowing the material," said Diana Henderson, Dean for Curriculum and Faculty Support.

"It was felt that there was a lot of choice in HASS-D, but there could be more, and there was a real scheduling problem. Students would pick their three science GIRs, and then 'fit in' a HASS-D class, by which time their schedule limited them to much fewer options."

Previously, as the HASS categories were known mainly by number rather than by name, students and advisors often were not entirely clear on what they could or should take in HASS, Henderson said.

New HASS system, Page 10

Beta gets 4-year ban on parties

Beta Theta Pi (Beta) is under social probation until fall of 2014, the result of an alcohol-related rush violation this year, according to according to IFC President Ryan Schoen '11. They will not be permitted to hold social events (parties) outside of Rush for the next four years.

Beta's case is currently under appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Interfraternity Council (IFC). On Sunday, Sept. 5, Beta had a hearing with the IFC's Rush Infractions Board for an alcohol-related rush violation.

The Rush Infractions Board recommended Beta's expulsion to the IFC President's Council. The council voted against expulsion. Instead, Beta is currently under a four-year social probation.

Beta will still be allowed to conduct rush activities in the years in between, but they will not be able to hold parties outside of the Rush period. Their appeal hearing with the Judicial Committee has not yet been scheduled, but is expected this month. Ari P. Miller '11, the president of Beta, declined to comment.

—Joanna Kao

Hockfield addresses MIT community on Wed.

At State of Institute forum, endowment gains, more undergrads announced

By Leo Zhou

After two difficult years, MIT has "aligned its budget with economic realities" and has improved the institute's economic resilience, President Susan J. Hockfield said at the annual State of the Institute forum on Wednesday.

As a sign of recovery, the endowment gained 10 percent from last year. This is a significant improvement over the previous year, when the endowment investment suffered a 17 percent loss with the total endowment value plunging from \$10 billion to \$8 billion. After subtracting operational costs, however, the overall endowment value only increased for 3.7 percent this year.

"It is fantastic news that we are going in the right direction, but we still have a long way to go to recover the ground we lost in the global downturn," said Hockfield.

Though plenty of cuts were made in the past couple years, there were things MIT's financial officers would on principle try to preserve, Hockfield said. Their top priority was to sustain need-blind admission and need-based financial aid.

"MIT continues to serve as a very strong economic escalator," Hockfield said. This year, two-in-three MIT freshmen are from public school, and 16 percent of them are first generation college students, she said.

Furthermore, the other goal of the

officers was to keep recruiting and hiring new faculty. As a result, there are 40 new additions in the faculty this year, which constitutes about 4 percent of the entire current faculty.

Present at the Q&A session of the forum besides President Hockfield were Provost L. Rafael Reif, Chancellor Phillip L. Clay PhD '75, and Theresa M. Stone SM '76, the Executive Vice President and Treasurer. Five questions were chosen from those submitted online in advance, while only three more questions were taken from the floor. After no further questions, the forum dispersed.

One of the floor question con-

Hockfield, Page 9

IN SHORT

Nightline is dead. The student support hotline, which anyone could call, was shut down because of staffing shortages and too many off-campus callers tying up resources. See p. 10 for a list of mental health resources if you need help, or just someone to talk to.

Subra Suresh ScD '81, Dean of the School of Engineering, was confirmed by the Senate as Director of the National Science Foundation on Wednesday. He had been waiting since June.

Nergis Mavalvala PhD '97 is a Genius! The MIT physics professor received a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship on Tuesday. She will receive \$500,000 over the next five years to spend as she sees fit — no strings attached.

The new Dean for Residential Life and Dining is Henry J. Humphreys, effective Nov. 1. He will be a senior associate dean, reporting to Chris Colombo. Humphreys has been Director of Residential Life at Boston College since 2002. He replaces Karen Nilsson, who is retiring.

Send news information and tips to news@tech.mit.edu.

EDITORIAL: YOUR MOVE, PBE

Should PBE's actions be considered hazing? The fraternity's best defense would be to let the facts speak. **OPN, p. 4**

PBE: THE IFC OVERREACTED

PBE did not haze, by Massachusetts state law. The IFC was oversensitive. **OPN, p. 5**

IFC: PBE HAZED, NO QUESTION

The evidence was substantial, and the IFC acted responsibly. **OPN, p. 5**



WHEN ETHICS ARE A FASHION CHOICE

Socially-conscious fashion has become a hot fad these days. Does it really make a difference? **ARTS, p. 6**

WOMEN'S TENNIS RACKS UP 2 WINS

This past week, women's tennis triumphed over Clark and Babson. **SPO, p. 12**

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T to begin posting real-time arrival data on trains today

The MBTA is to release real-time data Friday telling riders where subway trains are located and how long it will take for the next train to arrive.

That means that in a matter of days riders will be able to use their phones or go online to find arrival times and navigate the Orange, Blue, and Red lines with less frustration.

That release has spurred a flurry of free or low-cost bus applications designed by third-party software developers, and similar applications should begin appearing next week for the subway system, MBTA officials and software developers said.

Meanwhile, the T is also beginning to install live maps at subway stations, so riders can see real-time location and arrival information, without needing a phone or Internet connection, though it will be years before those screens are installed at all stations, because of budget limitations.

—Eric Moskowitz, *The Boston Globe*

Nintendo says 3-D device will arrive after holiday season

Nintendo, with its mobile gaming throne being threatened by games on Apple iPhones, has been planning to fight back with a new hand-held console with a 3-D display.

But Nintendo revealed a hitch to its plans on Wednesday. The company said its new 3DS console would not be available until early next year, tentatively February, meaning it will miss the crucial year-end holiday sales season.

Nintendo also said its profits would be held down because it expected lower holiday sales from the 6-year-old DS portable machine, which the 3-D player is meant to replace, as well as slowing sales of its Wii home video game console.

Although Nintendo has sold far more of the aging DS consoles than Apple has sold iPhones so far, Apple has started to explicitly promote the iPod Touch and iPhone as gaming devices. Nintendo's console-based game empire is also threatened by the rising popularity of casual online games like FarmVille on the social networking site Facebook.

In the six years since the DS hand-held machine was introduced, Nintendo has sold 132 million units, more than twice the number of Sony PlayStation Portables sold over a comparable period.

So far, Nintendo has stayed on top by challenging the status quo in the game industry. But Nintendo faces a recent proliferation of rival approaches to gaming. Angry Birds, a game from the Finnish developer Rovio, has been a smash hit on Apple's iPhone and iPad, for example, while FarmVille, developed by a Silicon Valley start-up, Zynga, has millions of users.

—*Hiroko Tabuchi, The New York Times*

U.S. presses Israelis on renewal of settlement freeze

**By Mark Landler, Helene
Cooper and Ethan Bronner**
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration is trying to cajole the Israeli government into a 60-day renewal of the freeze on Jewish settlement building by offering it security guarantees, ranging from military hardware to support for a long-term Israeli presence in the strategically sensitive Jordan Valley, according to lawmakers and other officials briefed on the proposals.

But with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu '75 so far resisting the administration's entreaties, the United States is also weighing a fallback plan, officials said, that could involve reaching out to the Palestinians with a pledge to formally endorse one of their central demands for the borders of a future Palestinian state.

tract a high price for acquiescing on settlements. The Palestinians have threatened to walk away from the talks if Israel does not renew its freeze on construction, something Netanyahu has ruled out.

Adding to the pressure is a meeting in Cairo next week of the Arab League, at which the Palestinian Authority president, Mahmoud Abbas, has promised to deliver a speech in which he will "declare historical decisions."

For now, the administration's focus remains on Netanyahu, whom U.S. officials hope they can persuade to renew the freeze, with the understanding that Washington will ask for no further extensions. The administration's special envoy to the region, George J. Mitchell, met with Netanyahu on Wednesday and plans to meet him again before seeing Abbas on Friday.

representatives on Capitol Hill about what Ross described as a “string of assurances in return for a two-month moratorium,” according to people who were in the meeting.

Netanyahu has brushed aside these offers, officials said. For him, said an Israeli official, the political necessity of standing firm on settlements outweighs any security incentives offered by the United States.

Abbas said he would consult with the Palestinian movement and the Arab League before deciding his next move. The Palestine Liberation Organization's executive committee is due to meet Saturday. The Arab League, originally planning a Monday meeting, has delayed that gathering until Wednesday.

The administration has not yet made a proposal to the Palestinians, according to a Palestinian official.

By Lisa W. Foderaro

It started with a Twitter message Sept. 19: "Roommate asked for the room till midnight. I went into molly's room and turned on my webcam. I saw him making out with a dude. Yay."

That night, authorities say, the Rutgers University student who sent the message used a camera in his dormitory room to stream the roommate's intimate encounter live on the Internet.

And three days later, the roommate who had been surreptitiously broadcast — Tyler Clementi, an 18-year-old freshman and an accomplished violinist — jumped

The Sept. 22 death, details of which the authorities disclosed Wednesday, was the latest by a

The Middlesex County prosecutor's office said Clementi's roommate, Dharun Ravi, 18, of Plainsboro, N.J., and another classmate, Molly Wei, 18, of Princeton Junction, N.J., had each been charged with two counts of invasion of privacy for using "the camera to view and transmit a live image" of Clementi. The most serious charges carry a maximum sentence of five years in jail.

O'Neill, said the investigation was continuing, but he declined to "speculate on additional charges."

Ravi was freed on \$25,000 bail, and Wei was released on her own recognizance. The lawyer for Ravi, Steven D. Altman, declined to comment on the accusations. A phone message left at the offices of William A. Fox, Wei's lawyer, was not returned.

"Tyler was a fine young man, and a distinguished musician," the statement read. "The family is heartbroken beyond words."

Danielle Birnbohm, a freshman who lived across the hall from him in Davidson Hall, said Ravi had said the initial broadcast was an accident — that he viewed the encounter after dialing his own computer from another room in the dorm.

WEATHER

By Roman Kowch
STAFF METEOROLOGIST






ity and rainfall is the result of low pressure riding northward along the East Coast. Temperatures should not reach 80°F like on previous days, but it will remain muggy until a cold front finally pushes through tonight, ushering in cooler and drier air. In response to the front, the weekend looks perfect with highs in the 60s°F and sunny skies. Good luck staying dry today!

Today: Heavy rain, with totals up to 4 inches possible. High 72°F (22°C). South wind 20–25 mph, with gusts up to 40 mph. Chance of rain: 90 percent.

Tonight: Rain in the evening, then clearing after midnight. Cooler. Low 55°F (13°C). North wind 15–20 mph. Chance of rain: 60 percent.

Sunday: Sunny. High 64°F (18°C). Low 49°F (9°C).
Monday: Mostly sunny. Highs around 60°F (16°C). Lows in the upper 40s°F (8–10°C).

Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Friday, October 1, 2010

Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	 Trough	<div>Snow</div> <div>Rain</div>	<div>Fog</div> <div>Thunderstorm</div> <div>Haze</div>
L Low Pressure	 Warm Front	<div>Showers</div> <div>Light</div> <div>Moderate</div> <div>Heavy</div>	<div>Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and <i>The Tech</i></div>
 Hurricane	 Cold Front		
	 Stationary Front		

20 light-years away, planet may be able to nurture life

By Dennis Overbye
THE NEW YORK TIMES

It might be a place that only a lichen or pond scum could love, but astronomers said Wednesday that they had found a very distant planet capable of harboring water on its surface, thus potentially making it a home for plant or animal life.

Nobody from Earth will be visiting anytime soon: The planet, which goes by the bumpy name of Gliese 581g, is orbiting a star about 20 light years away in the constellation Libra.

But if the finding is confirmed by other astronomers, the planet, which has three to four times the mass of Earth, would be the most

Earthlike planet yet discovered and the first to meet the criteria for being potentially habitable.

“It’s been a long haul,” said Dr. Steven S. Vogt of the University of California, Santa Cruz, who, along with R. Paul Butler of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, led the team that made the discovery. “This is the first exoplanet that has the right conditions for water to exist on its surface.”

In a recent report for the National Academy of Science, astronomers declared the finding of such planets one of the major goals of this decade. NASA’s Kepler satellite — which was launched in March 2009 as a way to detect Earthlike bodies — is expected to harvest dozens or hundreds.

Gliese 581g (whose first name is pronounced GLEE-za) circles a star known as Gliese 581, once every 37 days, at a distance of about 14 million miles. That is smack in the middle of the so-called Goldilocks zone, where the heat from the star is neither too cold nor too hot for water to exist in liquid form on its surface.

But they expressed caution about this particular planet, noting uncertainties about its density, composition and atmosphere, and the need for another generation of giant telescopes and spacecraft in order to find out anything more about it.

The discovery was announced at a news conference Wednesday in Washington.

North Korea offers peek at leader’s presumed heir

By Mark McDonald
THE NEW YORK TIMES

North Korean state media released a photograph on Thursday of Kim Jong-un, the son and presumed heir of the ailing dictator, Kim Jong-il, the first verified image of the young man as an adult.

The photo was published in the Thursday issue of North Korea’s main newspaper, Rodong Sinmun, and showed him in a dark suit with his father and a large group of senior Workers’ Party officials. He bears a strong resemblance to his father

and, some thought, his grandfather, Kim Il-sung, North Korea’s founder.

This week, at a landmark meeting of the Workers’ Party in the capital, Pyongyang, the younger Kim, who is believed to be 27 or 28, was given the rank of four-star general in the People’s Army and was named a deputy chairman of the party’s military commission. He also became a member of the party’s Central Committee, an ideological and policy-making post.

Chubby and looking somewhat older than his years, Kim Jong-un was seated two spots to his father’s

right and next to another rising star, Vice Marshal Ri Yong-ho, seated between them.

Ri, 67, whose military rank as vice marshal places him over Kim Jong-un, was named to the country’s powerful Politburo this week and also was made a deputy chairman of the party’s military commission. The vice marshal, who has served as chief of the army general staff, is seen as a seasoned officer with substantial field experience. South Korean news media reports have suggested that he guided Kim Jong-un in his fast-track military training over the last year.

Questions on ex-housekeeper emerge for a candidate

In many ways, it had the makings of the kind of classic late-campaign political dust-up that happens so regularly in high-profile California campaigns: the celebrity lawyer, the illegal immigrant, a welter of conflicting allegations and conspiracy charges, a candidate willing to take a lie-detector test and the scene of reporters clustered in a swanky lawyer’s office overlooking the Hollywood Hills. News conferences were streamed live on TMZ.com, the scandal-chasing Hollywood website that has become a force in politics and celebrity in this town.

In this case, though, it is a potentially problematic episode for Meg Whitman, the Republican who has broken spending records trying to become the California governor and still has found herself tied in polls with her Democratic opponent, Jerry Brown, the state attorney general.

In a year in which immigration has become a hot and complicated issue, particularly in this state, Whitman found herself trying to explain how she had employed an illegal immigrant as a housekeeper for nine years. She said she fired the housekeeper, Nicandra Diaz-Santillan, when she learned of her status last year.

The development — which Whitman described as a smear by her opponents — came in the midst of a campaign in which she has struggled to be sufficiently tough on illegal immigration to appeal to conservative Republicans without alienating independents and Hispanics who are critical to any winning electoral calculation here. A poll in The Los Angeles Times last week found that she was struggling against Brown for support among Latino voters.

—Adam Nagourney, *The New York Times*

NASA gets new orders that bypass the moon

NASA, best known as the agency that put the first man on the moon, is about to end its moon program for the foreseeable future.

Under legislation passed by the House late Wednesday, the nation’s spaceflight program will take a new direction. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration will turn to private companies to launch astronauts into space, while it starts work on a larger rocket for travel to more distant destinations — an asteroid, perhaps, and eventually Mars.

The new mandate “helps put the U.S. space program on a more sustainable trajectory,” Lori B. Garver, NASA’s deputy administrator, said Thursday during a telephone news conference. “We now have an important framework.”

The House, in a 304-118 vote on Wednesday, approved a Senate-written bill authorizing \$58 billion for NASA over the next three years and setting priorities for the agency. The Senate passed the bill in August, and it now goes to President Barack Obama for his signature.

—Kenneth Chang, *The New York Times*



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Executive Editor
Natasha Plotkin '11

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- Alec Lai,
UA Secretary-General

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The view from Phi Beta Epsilon

By Steve Carhart

At the beginning of this year's Rush Week, an anonymous party provided the IFC Judicial Committee (JudComm) with circumstantial evidence stolen from our fraternity house of a violation of the IFC Risk Management policies connected with Phi Beta Epsilon's 2010 initiation last January. Although the 60 day statute of limitations on JudComm complaints had long since passed since the alleged violation took place, and even though this complaint was apparently intentionally released at a moment when it would do maximum damage to the fraternity, a hearing was held. In that hearing, it was clear that: *No one was hurt in that event. No one has ever publicly registered a complaint against PBE. No first hand witnesses to this event were ever called for testimony or allowed to be cross examined.* And, as reported in *The Tech*, the IFC has kept the identity of this anonymous party a secret. Within twelve hours of being notified of this complaint, Phi Beta Epsilon was expelled from the IFC. In less than two weeks, our appeal review was final, resulting in a four year suspension. Why such a decision was reached in such a hurried manner with such a narrow scope of evidence and testimony is inexplicable.

The purpose of Phi Beta Epsilon Corporation is to provide a legal and physical framework for an exceptional living and social experience for our undergraduate members while they are at MIT. Over the years we believe the record of our alumni suggests that we have been successful in that regard. Whatever our shortcomings, our focus must always remain on the quality of our undergraduates' living experience. To that end, the PBE Corporation has urged its undergraduates to refocus on their studies so that their academic and professional objectives are not compromised any more than they already have been by these events. It serves no purpose for them bear the burden of defending PBE, so my colleagues and I on the Corporation must communicate with the MIT community and work to redress the malicious damage done to the fraternity.

Were our undergraduates and recent alumni the sort of students who engaged in "fraternity" activities rather than in the serious

purposes of undergraduate education, I might be less vehement in their defense. However, they are among the highest performing students, athletes, and leaders in the undergraduate community. Whatever is going on at Phi Beta Epsilon, it is attracting and/or producing such students.

Notwithstanding the fact that no individual has come forth to back these allegations, we did not contest that certain violations of risk management policy may have occurred. We highly value our relationship with MIT, and have no interest in operating outside the range of values shared by that community. Hazing is another matter. Massachusetts law defines hazing as willful and reckless endangerment of mental and physical health. Phi Beta Epsilon has never conducted activities fitting or even approaching this definition. Beyond the relatively concrete definitions of Massachusetts law, however, Institute policy definitions of hazing have over the years extended into gray areas of physical and mental stress so amorphous as to be unenforceable. Did you know that public stunts are officially considered to be hazing? Better ban the hacking culture. Did you know that "road trips" are hazing? Visits to Wellesley are banned too. So are scavenger hunts. Did you know that throwing someone in a shower is officially considered to be hazing? Better expel all the athletic teams and dorms. Mental discomfort? Better stop giving finals. We believe that many programs sponsored by the Institute produce more stress than anything ever done by Phi Beta Epsilon. It is in this realm where our alleged violations occurred. Whoever among the Institute community has never broken the letter of a regulation in a private and victimless setting is invited to cast the first stone at Phi Beta Epsilon.

The Phi Beta Epsilon Corporation has attempted throughout this process to produce some sort of constructive outcome from this unfortunate situation, a teaching moment for all concerned. We have had little impact. Alumni bodies have no standing within the IFC judicial process, and to the extent that Dean's offices will speak to alumni, it is always with the premise that our input must not affect the judicial process. To demonstrate our

willingness to eliminate any practices with even the appearance of violating regulations, we proposed to abolish our existing initiation process and replace it with highly challenging emotional and physical experiences from the professionally documented open sources (Outward Bound, National Training Lab T Groups, ropes courses, corporate team building exercises). This attempt to achieve our goals of group bonding and emotional intensity without any objectionable appearances of traditional fraternity initiations was included in our appeal but ignored in the appeal decision.

In every culture and every age, our best young men seek out challenge, adventure, and bonding. The challenge to the elders in any institution for young adults is to provide these opportunities for growth in a fashion in which they will not harm themselves or others. Despite the best intentions of all concerned, I am left with the sense that the Institute's culture in these matters is so over constrained that this balance is no longer possible. Here is my sense of the tasks before those of us who share an abiding concern with the welfare of undergraduates in MIT residences:

For Independent Living Groups: The IFC Judicial process is so flimsy that anonymous complaints regarding high risk activities can lead almost overnight to your suspension or expulsion. The IFC's disregard of its own by-laws on the timeliness of complaints means that hostile individuals can gather or even steal information from emails you send, servers you maintain, or telephone camera shots taken at parties and provide them to judicial authorities at a time of their choosing. You have no zone of privacy in this world of electronic data gathering combined with a hair triggered judiciary. If your living group can withstand 24/7 scrutiny of this sort, you are a different species of human being than we have at PBE.

For Alumni of Independent Living Groups: In light of the above, any long term projects such as fund raising to build or renew your structure such as we are conducting can be rendered nonviable within a day by the IFC Judicial System. Be further advised that if your group comes into serious difficulties with the

Judicial System, you as alumni have no standing to contribute to reasonable resolution. I urge you to study the procedural record of our case to prevent its recurrence in your circumstances.

For residential deans: The ever expanding definitions of hazing beyond the basics of Massachusetts law are hypocritical and confusing. They are applied with a vengeance to fraternities, while MIT itself and many dormitories and sports teams have activities which are indefensible within this broad penumbra of "hazing." If this event sparks a campus-wide review of all of these activities — and it should — you may be surprised at what you find.

The Institute is deeply and properly concerned about the life and death decisions which can be made by the young adults attending MIT. It is also properly concerned about its potential legal liabilities in the event of a mishap. As an alumni volunteer, I am no less concerned about these matters. Yet I have a further concern: *building a vibrant living group*. The Phi Beta Epsilon Corporation has tried and perhaps failed to maintain an emotionally intense living experience for our undergraduates which is, and is perceived to be, consistent with the values of the broader MIT community. Successful communities are hard to create but easily destroyed. Somehow the value of vital if imperfect (and perhaps perfectible) independent living groups must be weighed against the impulse to stamp out every perceived shortcoming, or we will have no emotionally vibrant ILG's.

The tragic death of Scott Krueger in a 1997 incident at another MIT fraternity shocked MIT and the ILG community. All of us undertook a searching reappraisal of residential policy. Since that time, the culture of MIT regarding these matters has become ever more liability averse, politically correct, and hair triggered with respect to any real or imagined undesirable fraternity activity. Sadly, I fear that the Institute's culture in these matters has come full circle from a time when a thoughtless fraternity could kill a fine young man to a day when a malicious individual can kill a fine old fraternity.

Steve Carhart is president of the Phi Beta Epsilon Corporation and a member of Class of 1970.

IFC clears up the facts about PBE's hazing expulsion

By The IFC Executive Board

Since the conclusion of the Phi Beta Epsilon (PBE) judicial process, we have heard many concerns regarding the procedures used by the Interfraternity Council (IFC). It greatly surprises us that members of our community are worried by a process that was agreed upon by every one of the member fraternities of the IFC, but we do take these concerns seriously and want to do our best to allay them.

The primary accusation seems to be that the processes used to investigate PBE and suspend them from the IFC were unfair or otherwise “flawed”. We would like to lay these accusations to rest, with a series of simple facts about what occurred.

1. Substantial evidence of hazing occurring at PBE was provided to the IFC executive board.

2. PBE requested and was granted an expedited judicial process so that a decision could be reached quickly. They voluntarily waived

their right to a 7-day waiting period before a judicial hearing could occur.

3. PBE did not make any attempt to dispute the evidence presented. Instead, they confirmed it as accurate and claimed that it did not constitute hazing.

4. Several of the activities described in the evidence are explicitly enumerated in Massachusetts State Law as examples of hazing. Therefore, the activities described were, without question, hazing.

5. The IFC Judicial Board that reviewed PBE's case unanimously found PBE responsible for the hazing activities.

6. MIT has a zero-tolerance policy toward hazing. A four-year suspension is not only justified, but a minimal sanction given the infractions.

7. All of the procedures used, except for those voluntarily waived by PBE, are outlined in our Constitution and Judicial Bylaws. They have been publicly available on the IFC website for several years, and every member

fraternity agrees to them prior to becoming a member of the IFC.

The primary concern of the IFC is strength and overall health of a member of the fraternity community. It would be contrary to our goals to condemn any of our member fraternities without strong, unbiased evidence that the organization was violating the values that the community strives to uphold. The IFC is not “out to get” any of our own (despite baseless accusations claiming otherwise). However, failing to act in the face of these clear and definite violations would be grossly irresponsible on the part of the IFC.

It has come to our attention that much of the public concern about this process is a result of the lack of information from the IFC about the specific allegations and charges of this case. The IFC Executive Board members have gone to great lengths to respect the privacy of PBE's organizational traditions and rituals, including details about the hazing activities. Our silence should not be misin-

terpreted as uncertainty or hesitancy about this case — on the contrary, we are convinced that the Judicial Committee came to the correct decision. The actions taken by members of PBE endangered the mental and physical well-being of their new members.

The IFC Executive Board will not be releasing any further details surrounding this case. Additionally, we will not be engaging in any further public discussion in this regard. If any active member or alumni of any of our member chapters feels that the community processes need revision, we encourage him to contact the chapter's current president. Any member of the Presidents' Council can initiate a change of the IFC's policies and/or procedures.

The IFC Exec board is composed of: Ryan Schoen, President; Clark Minor, Vice President; Garrett Fritz, Judicial Committee Chair; Spencer Parra, Programming and Recruitment Chair; Tim Stumbaugh, Public Relations Chair; Ian Matts, Risk Manager; Ben Harvattine, Executive Assistant

The IFC wields its power reasonably and responsibly

By R. Krishna Esteva

David Templeton asserted in Monday's Tech that fraternities' self-governance through the IFC is actually hurting fraternities. He argues that out of a desire to protect that self-governance the IFC is exceedingly harsh to members that violate its rules resulting in the IFC self-governance doing more harm than good. I find his assertions false on two grounds, first because in most cases the IFC is not exceedingly harsh and second because self-governance is an extremely important part of fraternity life.

On the first point, David argues that had any of the violations that fraternities are currently being punished for happened in a dorm, the administration would have been far more lenient than the IFC was to fraternities. He forgets that any IFC decision can be appealed to the MIT administration. In fact, the MIT administration approved the suspension of PBE but reduced the punishment from ten years to four. Furthermore, the IFC has clearly pre-established rules. The alleged violations

were extremely serious — hazing by the IFC definition is an activity that endangers physical or mental health. Even more importantly, hazing is illegal in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Furthermore, openly alcoholic parties during Rush send the wrong message about the focus of fraternity life. Asserting that these infractions deserved leniency only encourages irresponsible behavior and could lead to state government involvement and negative stereotyping of fraternities. Whether or not the allegations are true is a matter for an entirely different discussion.

Templeton asserts that the punishments exacted on dorms aren't slaps on the wrist, but the reality is that they are not serious disincentives. The punishments for dorms are not predefined, and if leniency is expected it only creates an uncertain environment that leads to more rules being broken. If a dorm has an alcohol related medical emergency, the punishments are minor and serious consequences don't occur till several infractions have accumulated. There have been floors with multiple cases of alcohol poisoning in

a single semester, something that is almost unheard of for a fraternity. Fraternities have much stricter risk management policies with respect to alcohol in part because of the IFC. The fact that it is easier to get alcohol poisoning in a dorm than a fraternity should not be an example to follow.

A violation at one dorm does not reflect poorly on all the other dorms. Parents will not pressure their kids to live off campus in the wake of a dorm incident, they will simply tell them to choose a different dorm. Fraternities, on the other hand, face serious stereotypes that we must combat on a regular basis. We form an important part of the MIT community and provide a great deal of benefits to campus as a whole — something most people outside of MIT don't appreciate. A fraternity that fulfills the stereotype reflects poorly on the rest and results in people making false assumptions about Greek life at MIT, something that can only harm everyone involved.

Finally, I don't think David realizes how important self-governance is to fraternity life. One of the most important aspects of frater-

nities is the ability to be entirely self-defined. You choose who your neighbors are, how your living space is arranged — almost every aspect of your life down to the rules that govern you are entirely self created. This is something that most floors, let alone dorms, just don't have. Dorm residents don't have the final voice in who they live with and how their living space is organized. Worst of all, the rules that define what dorms can and cannot do are, for the most part, established by outside entities. MIT will make the decisions that are best for the administration and not necessarily the students (or fraternities). If you need evidence of that, simply look at the new dining plan. Why should fraternities voluntarily subjugate themselves to that level of control when we are doing well governing ourselves? Giving up your on freedom for theoretical convenience is a slippery slope no one should want to go down, let alone the fraternities who offer a level of responsibility and freedom that most college students don't until after graduation.

R. Krishna Esteva '13 is a UA Senator representing Fraternities and a brother at Theta Chi.

During Boston Fashion Week, a show featuring socially-conscious clothing begs the question: Does it make a difference?



MAGGIE LIU—THE TECH

By Maggie Liu
ARTS EDITOR

The show itself featured an autumn palette: austere greys, ochre blouses, deep navies. Highlights included knit scarves paired with tough motorcycle boots, draped car-


**It was a fitting
vibe for the urban
girl: feminine yet
edgy, romantic yet
practical...**

Nomad is a local boutique based in Cambridge with a wide variety of fair trade. Colburn, Nomad's owner, explained that the fashion's interest in social consciousness

However, why is it then that we hear so much of green and sustainable fashion yet see so little of it on say, the college campus? Heck, even in the streets? The main problem, Stilista's Vasilevsky explained, still lies in lack of awareness amongst the consumers. Although there has been much buzz in the media about celebrities sponsoring green fashion and photoshoots paired with phrases like "tree hugger" or "ethical chic," your everyday shopper has remained unfazed. What are the first things that come to mind when shoppers buy something? Price. Quality. Vasilevsky notes that until questions like "How was this dye made?" "Where did this cotton come from? How were those workers treated" appear in the consumer's subconscious, green fashion will remain a niche. While fair trade and eco-friendly designs are by no means cheap, good quality items usually are comparable in price to moderate mainstream designers — French Connection, Elie Tahari. Designer jean lines have also started to market socially

It will still take a while longer before green fashion truly appeals to the mainstream.


What can we do as consumers, especially college students on a budget, regarding eco-friendly fashion? Truthfully, not a whole lot. We can use our recyclable totes when going to Shaw's, buy American Apparel's "organic t-shirts," drink our fair-trade coffee. At the end of the day, we can only make the effort to spread awareness about why socially conscious fashion is important, transcending a fad into a principle. Perhaps five-ten years down the road, shoppers will ask "Was this beheading the work of underpaid child labour in Cambodia" and think twice about where and how the product was created, before purchasing it.



MIT

MIT CHINA

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Huazhong University of Science & Technology (Wuhan)
Zhejiang University
Anxian Middle School
Xi'an Gaoxin No. 1 High School
VTC Hong Kong
YuanZe University (Taiwan)

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(MIT-CETI ceti@mit.edu)

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Info Session: Thurs, Oct. 7 @ 7:30pm

Room 3-133



Free Food!

<http://web.mit.edu/mit-ceti/www/>

my friend's got mental illness

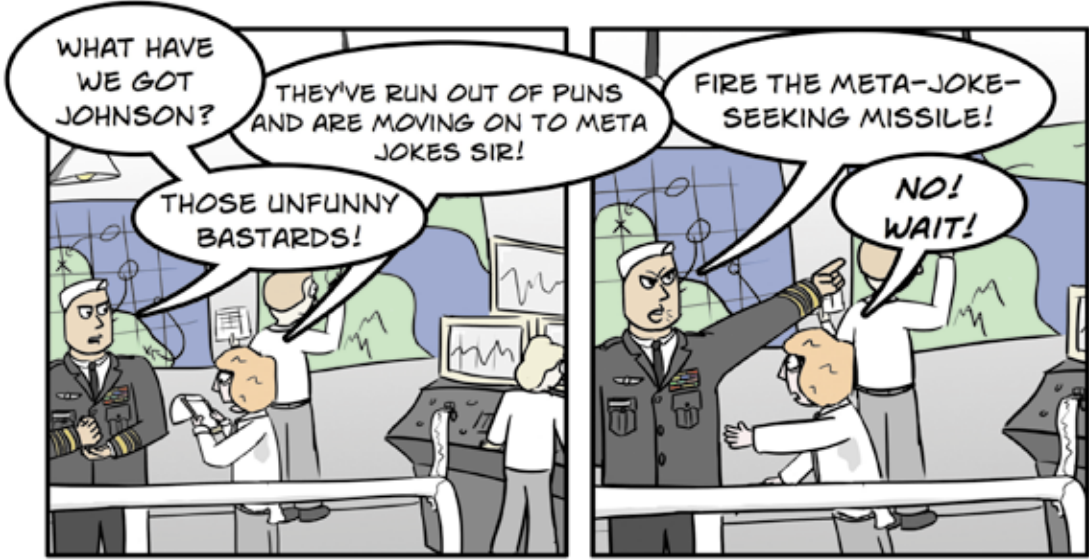
To a friend with mental illness, your caring and understanding greatly increases their chance of recovery. Visit whatadifference.samhsa.gov for more information.

Mental Illness – What a difference a friend makes.

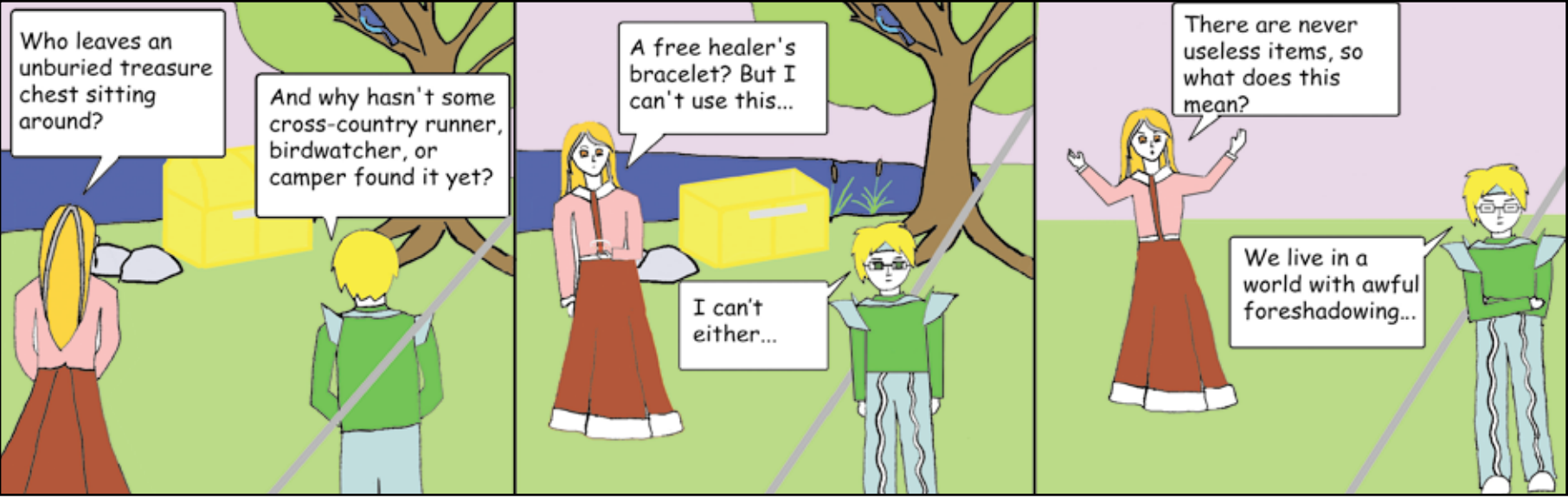



This space donated by TheTech

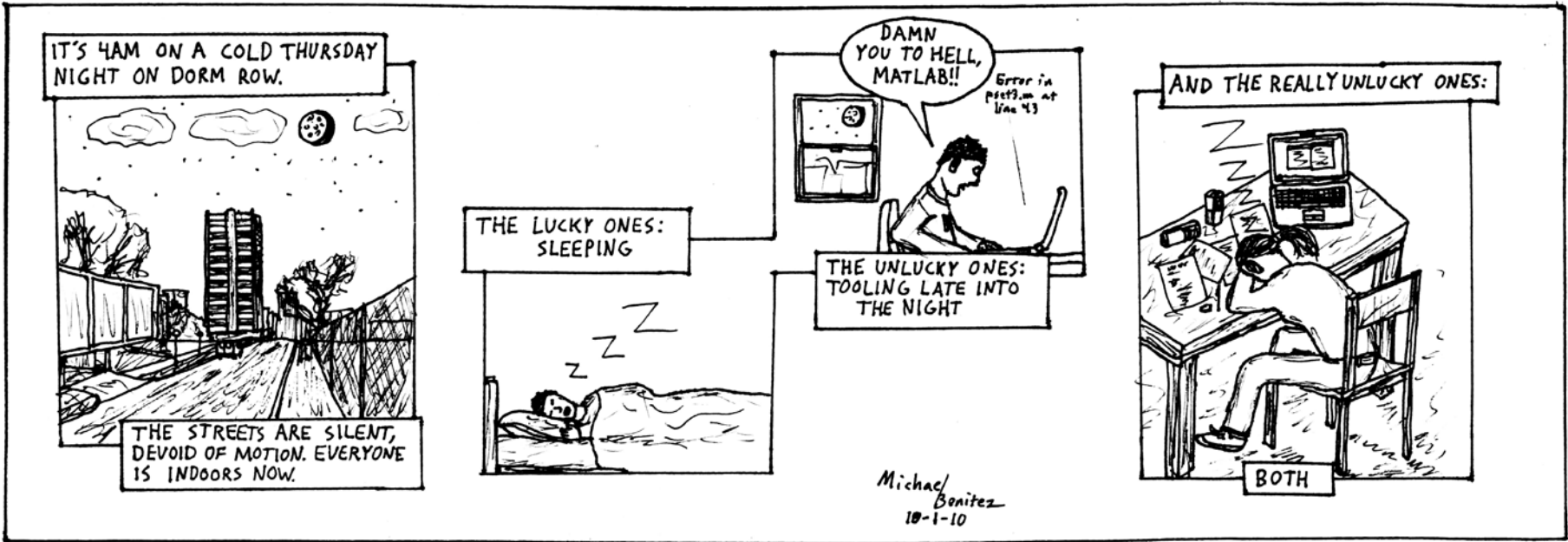
Steal My Comic by Michael Ciuffo



Somewhere on the search for meaning... by Letitia Li



Help Desk by Michael Benitez



Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 10

ACROSS

- 1 Backyard pie ingredient
- 4 Watchband
- 9 Slip of the mind
- 14 Individual
- 15 At large
- 16 UFO rider
- 17 Biblical injunctions
- 20 Kick out
- 21 Drink to
- 22 Grazing grounds
- 23 Plays a banjo
- 26 Tentative taste
- 29 NBC classic
- 30 Series shutout
- 31 Dry by rubbing
- 32 Oyster's gem
- 33 Online bookseller
- 35 Did some questionable redistricting
- 38 Sprites
- 39 Hot, spicy drink
- 40 Dollar, slangily
- 41 Cancun cash
- 42 Rwy. stop

- 45 Shepard or Houston
- 46 Go downhill
- 48 Bridle strap
- 49 Student of Socrates
- 51 Jinxed
- 52 Charlemagne's domain
- 57 In the open
- 58 Utah home of BYU
- 59 Mexican Mme.
- 60 Private Eye's projects
- 61 Becomes weary
- 62 Middle of 17A, 35A and 52A

DOWN

- 1 Ramada chain
- 2 Lopsided
- 3 Refusal to admit
- 4 Niche
- 5 Hanks or Cruise
- 6 CD-__
- 7 Simile middle
- 8 Kept inside
- 9 Actor Lorenzo
- 10 Pub potations

- 11 Runtish
- 12 Clique
- 13 Punner's duo?
- 18 IV quantities
- 19 Comic DeLuise
- 23 Vacillates
- 24 Period of time
- 25 Demonstrates connections
- 27 Portable media player
- 28 Farmyard enclosure
- 30 Very dry
- 31 On one's guard
- 32 Puritanical
- 33 After-market item
- 34 Rx items
- 35 Colorado tributary
- 36 Specimens
- 37 Plane front
- 38 IBM units
- 41 On time
- 42 Gender bias
- 43 __ del Fuego
- 44 From the mountains of Peru

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16				
17			18							19				
20								21						
22					23	24	25				26	27	28	
29				30							31			
				32					33	34				
	35	36						37						
38							39							
40						41					42	43	44	
45				46	47						48			
		49	50							51				
52	53						54	55	56					
57						58						59		
60						61						62		

- 46 Bumps on a hog?
- 47 Of the ear: pref.
- 48 GOP member
- 50 Greek harp
- 51 Med. care gps.

- 52 Ad __ committee
- 53 Eggs
- 54 Onassis, to pals
- 55 "... gloom of night..."
- 56 First lady of Eden

by Jerry Holkins
and Mike Krahulik



Easy Sudoku

			9			4		7
1		2		7		9	3	
							6	
5			8			3		1
4	8						7	5
9		7			3			4
	5							
	6	1		3		2		9
2		9			1			

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

Hard Sudoku

					8			9
5	6		4				8	1
	8			1				
3		1		4		6		
		7	6	3	1	9		
		6		5		3		7
				2			9	
9	4				5		6	2
6			9					



MAKING (AND) DESIGNING
MATERIALS ENGINEERING
CONTEST
2010 *Materials Solutions
for Alternative Energy*



Massachusetts
Institute of
Technology

COURSE III DMSE

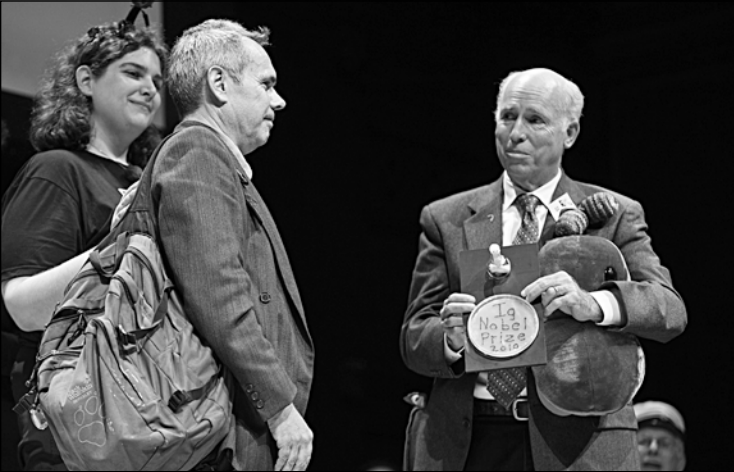
Finalists presentations and Awards Ceremony
Tuesday, October 5 2010, 7PM
MIT Room 4-237
<http://dmse.mit.edu/madmec>

At Ig Nobels, bacteria opera ends in mouthwash

Ig Nobels, from Page 1

the Ig Nobel awards are put on by the *Annals of Improbable Research* to honor those people who have invented or researched things that not only make people laugh, but make them think. Each winner’s speech lasts about a minute.

The celebration is deserved. After all, where would the world be



Gareth Jones accepts his Ig Nobel Prize in Biology during the Ig Nobel Awards Ceremony on Thursday. Each of the ten winners received a Petri dish and a stuffed bacteria plushie.

without laureate Dr. Elena Bodnar and her emergency bra (\$29.99, *ebbra.com*), which can be converted into two protective face masks?

This year’s theme was bacteria. Each attendee brought trillions of guests to the ceremony. They were everywhere, and when The BIG Question was asked to three of the distinguished scientists there, only one could answer the question, “how many bacteria can dance on the head of a pin?”

Toshiyuki Nagasaki brought a replica of a human head and said

an unknown seatmate). After the germ-swapping, the Ig Nobel prize in Public Health went to the team who determined that in biological labs, bearded men or women run the highest risk of transmitting pathogenic bacteria.

There was even an entire opera dedicated to bacteria, who were trying to get off a woman’s tooth in a dramatic fashion (featuring the likenesses of Spock and Kirk). The finale as they were about to make their escape found the woman being inconsiderate to the lives of the



William Lipscomb was the prize in the Win-a-Date with a Nobel Laureate contest. Lipscomb won the Nobel Prize in 1976 for “chemical attraction.”

Campaign raised \$500M for students

Hockfield, from Page 1

cerned the “Campaign For Students.” According to Hockfield, it was initiated in 2007 and designed to be a 150th birthday present to MIT. The goal of the campaign is to raise \$500 million to support MIT students. Clay remarked that the campaign has gotten great response in the very beginning from alumni and friends of MIT, and has now achieved the original fundraising goal with 39 weeks left.

The \$500 million fund is divided into \$200 million for undergraduate scholarships, \$100 million for graduate fellowships, \$100 million for student learning (faculty support and curriculum development), and \$100 million for student life (housing, athletics, etc).

“There are many elements of the campaign that have been fabulously successful, and we are already benefiting from them,” said Hockfield.

The establishment of Fariborz Maseeh Hall in place of Ashdown House, which will house 450 students, was part of the campaign. It will allow the undergraduate body

to increase by 250 over the course of three years, and will generate more space in the other undergraduate dorms.

When asked whether there will be more layoffs this year with respect to the current budget, Reif responded that the budgets for 2010 and 2011 fiscal years had included layoffs to achieve the plan for a \$120 million expense reduction. Beyond those that have already taken place, he said, it’s “very hard to predict,” as there are layoffs every year unrelated to endowment changes, such as when grants expire and are not renewed.

In response to a question about whether MIT will continue to be at the mercy of economic gyrations, Reif said that the administration is trying to figure out a more robust and resilient budget process that will depend less on fluctuations in the endowment value. Stone added that we should also keep efficiency and intelligent spending in mind when budgeting in the future. As President Hockfield reminded everyone in the beginning of the forum, “We have a remarkable future yet to invent.”

bacteria and mouthwashing them to their demise.

After the opera segments, there were “moments of science.” One demonstration showed off some billowy gas that glowed to oohs and aahs from the audience. The audience was just as amused when scientists tried to show them *E. Coli* under a microscope — but couldn’t find any.

Slime molds can find anything though. The award for Transportation Planning was given to a group of Japanese scientists who were able to get slime molds to determine optimal routes for railroad tracks. Asked to describe their results in seven words, they said: “the blobs that shouldn’t be looked down upon”.

The prize in management was awarded to a project that proved that business work better if people are promoted randomly (so as to spread out the incompetence). And, in 140 characters, one of the Nobel Prize Laureates gave a speech on the importance of the plastic pink flamingo.

If you sort of squinted, some of the research was actually kind of useful. The prize in chemistry was given to a team (one of which was BP, represented by a guy, Steve, in a costume), for proving that oil and water mix; the prize in physics was given to three New Zealand women who proved that wearing socks on the outside of snow boots helps you traverse slippery surfaces.

What did all these award winners receive as their prize? A nice plaque with a bacteria-covered petri dish, a bacteria-covered slip of paper, and 10 trillion (Zimbabwe) dollars.

The many nuances and foibles that make up the Ig Nobel awards give it a unique character that infamously stereotype it as the most unorthodox science ceremony around. For good reason too. And so we say “goodbye, goodbye” and shed a tear to another year’s presentations gone by.

A radio broadcast of the awards will be on NPR’s Talk of the Nation on the Friday following Thanksgiving.



Jean Berko Gleason, who gave the Welcome, Welcome and Good-bye, Goodbye speeches, demonstrates that swearing helps to relieve pain. Richard Stephens, John Atkins, and Andrew Kingston of Keele University, UK won the Ig Nobel Peace Prize for their investigation into swearing as a response to pain.

We are having information sessions on
**Thursday, Sept 30th and Monday,
October 4th** in room 1-246 at 7PM.

If you have any questions, feel free to
e-mail alpinecaptains@mit.edu.

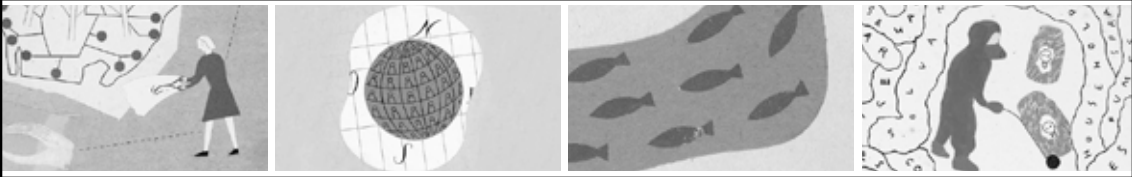
Come meet the team and learn more about
competitive alpine skiing at MIT!

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INFORMATION SESSION AT COLUMBIA
Thursday, October 7, 2010, 6:00–8:00 p.m.
1501 International Affairs Building, Columbia University
RSVP: Mariel Kessel, msk2156@columbia.edu

Solution to Crossword
from page 7

M	U	D		S	T	R	A	P		L	A	P	S	E
O	N	E		L	O	O	S	E		A	L	I	E	N
T	E	N	C	O	M	M	A	N	D	M	E	N	T	S
E	V	I	C	T						T	O	A	S	T
L	E	A	S		S	T	R	U	M	S		S	I	P
S	N	L		S	W	E	E	P			W	I	P	E
			P	E	A	R	L		A	M	A	Z	O	N
	G	E	R	R	Y	M	A	N	D	E	R	E	D	
P	I	X	I	E	S		T	O	D	D	Y			
C	L	A	M			P	E	S	O	S		S	T	A
S	A	M		W	O	R	S	E	N		R	E	I	N
			P	L	A	T	O			H	E	X	E	D
H	O	L	Y	R	O	M	A	N	E	M	P	I	R	E
O	V	E	R	T		P	R	O	V	O		S	R	A
C	A	S	E	S		T	I	R	E	S		M	A	N

Solution to Easy Sudoku
from page 8

6	3	8	9	1	2	4	5	7
1	4	2	5	7	6	9	3	8
7	9	5	3	8	4	1	6	2
5	2	6	8	4	7	3	9	1
4	8	3	1	2	9	6	7	5
9	1	7	6	5	3	8	2	4
3	5	4	2	9	8	7	1	6
8	6	1	7	3	5	2	4	9
2	7	9	4	6	1	5	8	3

Solution to Hard Sudoku
from page 8

1	7	4	2	6	8	5	3	9
5	6	3	4	9	7	2	8	1
2	8	9	5	1	3	4	7	6
3	5	1	7	4	9	6	2	8
8	2	7	6	3	1	9	4	5
4	9	6	8	5	2	3	1	7
7	3	5	1	2	6	8	9	4
9	4	8	3	7	5	1	6	2
6	1	2	9	8	4	7	5	3

2014s like new HASS system

Simpler rules make process less stressful for freshmen

New HASS system, from Page 1

Additionally, the new HASS requirement fits better with MIT’s requirement that students take at least two communications intensive classes outside of their major.

“With HASS-D, we often had classes that did not fit well with an emphasis on teaching the subject along with encouraging oral discussion and writing. In Literature, for example, that just came naturally. In courses like those in Music, however, that caused a problem, so the new system puts more of a distinction between communication intensive classes and regular HASS classes,” Henderson said.

Students seem to like new system

“I’m a senior — I’m only vaguely aware of the new HASS requirement’s existence, but it sounds a lot better than the current one because they don’t have to specifically take HASS-Ds. That’s why I put off two of them until senior year,” Philip D. Tynan ’11 said.

Students trying to complete their majors and simultaneously fulfill the HASS-D requirement often landed themselves in similar situations.

“From what I’ve heard, HASS-D was a pain before, and now they’re easier to deal with,” said Julia Berk ’14. “It’s gotten simpler.”

The general consensus seems to be that the new HASS requirement is definitely a step up from the old one, allowing more freedom in choice of classes, as the distributive component is no longer limited to a small selection of the wide range of HASS subjects available at MIT.

“My colleagues in science and engineering have given all positive feedback so far. Many of them are freshman advisors, so they can explain simply to students that they should choose from humanities, arts, and social sciences, rather than just a couple of numbers,” Henderson said. “Of course, this is just the first semester — it isn’t even Add Date yet, so we’ll be hearing a lot more responses to the HASS requirement. I think it’s something that will have to play out for several semesters.”

So, it seems new HASS Requirement has the potential to live up to its motto: “Engaging, Surprising, Required.”

The old HASS system

MIT’s commitment to producing well-rounded graduates means that, in addition to a rigorous scientific curriculum, students are expected to complete a number of classes in the wide range of topics collectively referred to as HASS: Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences. Until now, the requirement consisted of three components: three distributive classes, three-to-four classes toward a concentration, and one or two electives.

The distributive component required students to enter a lottery for a selection of classes known as HASS-Ds. There are five areas, commonly designated 1-5. (The official titles are Literary and Textual Studies; Language, Thought, and Value; Visual and Performing Arts; Cultural and Social Studies; Historical Studies).

Every undergraduate was expected to complete one HASS-D in each three unique of those areas.

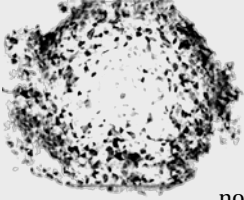
The second component, a concentration, was created not to give a taste of many fields, but to allow students a more in-depth exploration of a particular field of interest (without being as demanding as a minor). HASS concentrations require three or four classes that function together to form a coherent path of study.

The HASS Elective requirement simply means that students must take a total of eight HASS classes, including distribution and concentration. The idea is that this comes out to one HASS class per semester, although some students take more than one HASS in some semesters and none in others.

—Anne Cai and Niki Castle

Stem cell work can continue, for now

The Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia decided Tuesday afternoon to allow federally funded human embryonic stem cell research to continue, while the federal government appeals a lower court injunction that barred the work.



The appeals court had issued a temporary “administrative stay” of the preliminary injunction on Sept. 10. After hearing extended oral argument Monday on whether to grant a longer stay, the court decided on Tuesday that it would issue a longer stay “pending appeal.” Stem cell research can now continue until the appeals court hears and decides on the appeal that is before it.

On Thursday, the appeals court set the schedule for the appeal. The government’s first brief is due on Oct. 14, the brief from the appellees (adult stem cell researchers James L. Sherley and Theresa A. Deisher) is due on Oct. 28. The government’s reply brief is due on Nov. 4.

Meanwhile, various advocacy groups are getting involved in the case. Both the Coalition for the Advancement of Medical Research and the Genetics Policy Institute moved for permission to file amicus curiae (friend-of-the-court) briefs in the lower court case on Wednesday.

GPI’s 32-page brief focused narrowly on the meaning of the word “research,” which is central to the debate about the applicability of the congressional appropriations rider, the Dickey-Wicker amendment, to stem cell research.

— John A. Hawkinson



The Ig Informal Lectures

Saturday, October 2nd, 1:00 pm
MIT 10-250, 222 Memorial Drive

Once again, The MIT Press Bookstore is proud to partner with some *Improbable* friends to bring you a half-afternoon of improbably funny, informative, high-spirited public lectures, in which the 2010 Ig Nobel Prize winners will attempt to explain what they did, and why they did it. Please join us!

For more information on the 2010 Ig Nobel Prize Ceremony and the Ig Informal Lectures (including last year’s winners), please visit: <http://www.improbable.com/>

All Ig Nobel Prize activities are organized by the Annals of Improbable Research.
This free event is organized in cooperation with the MIT Press Bookstore.

MIT MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

MIT resources during business hours

Student Support Services
Walk-in: 9–10 a.m., Monday–Friday
Appointments: (617) 253-4861

MIT Mental Health
Walk-in: 2–4 p.m., Monday–Friday
Appointments: (617) 253-2916

Residential Life Staff
Housemasters, Residential Life Associates, GRTs, and RAs

MIT resources after business hours

MIT Dean on Call through Campus police: (617) 253-1212
MIT Mental Health Service on Call through Urgent Care: (617) 253-1311
Campus Police: 100 from any MIT phone or 617-253-1212

External resources
Boston Area Rape Crisis Center: (800) 841-8371
National Suicide Prevention Line: (800) 273-8255

Graduate Resident Tutors have had less money to work with since 2009

Some dormitories supplement GRT budgets with other funds, from dorm taxes, housemasters

By Derek Chang

Budget cuts have decreased residential life funds across the dorms, shrinking the money available to housemasters and GRTs. In McCormick Hall, for example, the housemasters experienced budget cuts of 10 percent for both this year and for the previous year, according to housemaster Charles H. Stewart III. McCormick’s housemasters have had to make sacrifices to their own money in order to keep the GRTs’ budgets on the level it was at in the previous year.

McCormick’s tighter budget was offset by the introduction of rollovers during the 2009-2010 school year. While any unused money would have been taken away in the past, the housemasters are now able to carry over any unused money from the previous year over to the new school year.

At Next House, similar sacrifices have occurred to soften the blow of the cuts in GRT money. “The GRTs

in Next have not been largely affected by cuts, because the housemasters have helped maintain our individual budgets by using money from their own budgets,” says Nicole De Nisco, who serves as GRT for 4W in Next. The budget given to each GRT remains the same, and each student still receives the same funding.

Unlike in McCormick, where housemasters had the luxury of rollovers, Next House GRTs no longer have rollovers. In the past, Next GRTs were permitted to keep the unspent money in their budget, but any unused money from this semester will be taken away. As a result, the quality of study breaks and activities has stayed at a similar level, though the end of rollovers does encourage GRTs like De Nisco to be more resourceful with their finances.

Graduate Residence Tutors in some other dorms actually saw their budgets decrease this year. In dormitories such as Baker House, less money is allocated to each student, so GRTs must use money carefully.

In Baker, decreases in the available budget have been occurring since the previous year.

There used to be two sushi breaks per term at Baker, but now only one could be planned.

However, Renee C. Smith, a Baker GRT on the first floor, explains: “Baker is fortunate because the Student Executive Committee in our dorm helps supplement the budget that is given to GRTs. Therefore, our budget decreases have not been too big of a problem. I’m actually happy we still have a budget to work with.”

Smith generally holds study breaks every day during the period before finals, but she had to get rid of Thursday study breaks for that period because money was lacking. A no-frills attitude had to be applied to breaks, as previous study breaks,

which included elaborate plans and activities, needed to be simplified. Smith added that there used to be two sushi breaks per term, but now only one could be planned. Still, she concluded, “the students seemed alright with the changes, as they realized that we had to be more frugal with our budget while our economy is struggling.”

The Graduate Resident Tutors in each dorm serve as live-in mentors for the MIT undergraduate community. Budget cuts in residential life services have meant financial strains for the GRTs, who each receive a budget that is allocated equally across the students in each individual GRT’s living area. As early as the previous school year, both housemasters and GRTs alike have had to adapt to stricter financial conditions.

Budget decreases have affected all dorms. The Institute has spent the last two years addressing the effects of the global financial crisis on MIT’s endowment and the General

Institute Budget. Approximately \$120 million have been trimmed from the General Institute Budget.

The change, which required cuts in all offices and divisions at MIT, including in the Division of Student Life. The cut in the housemasters’ budgets was a reflection of the changes, which could affect the GRTs’ budgets as well. The office of the Dean of Student Life was responsible for allocating money to the housemasters, who in turn determined the budgets of GRTs in individual dorms.

The budget constraints are a clear result that the American economy is still in a slump. GRTs and housemasters have had to be more calculating in order to maintain the services offered.

But Stewart, the McCormick housemasters, is still positive about the situation. “The poor economy in the last couple years has required drastic alternatives to the way finances are run, but the situation should improve with the upcoming year,” he said.

PBE and IFC differ on several points in hazing expulsion case

PBE, from Page 1

2. Alcohol Violations

IFC: A statement released by the IFC on Monday night referenced an alcohol violation during a “pledge activity or ritual.”

PBE: “Yes, there was alcohol present,” including a sealed bottle of Chartreuse, Naskar said. “It was for symbolic purposes. Any allegation of consumption, forced or otherwise, is patently false.”

He added: “PBE absolutely does not allow the consumption of alcohol by any brother or new member during the initiation process.”

3. Hearing was expedited

PBE: PBE alumni have expressed concern about the speed of the process. In a letter to *The Tech*, Steven Carhart ’70, chair of PBE’s alumni corporation said, “Why such a decision was reached in such a hurried manner with such a narrow scope of evidence and testimony is inexplicable.”

IFC: Schoen says that PBE signed a waiver giving up their right to have a week to prepare for their hearing.

“PBE requested and was granted an expedited judicial hearing. The judicial bylaws say that we have to wait seven days for a hearing to be held, so that the IFC can gather additional evidence and for the defendants to gather any evidence, make sure they have their case together so they’re not surprised by anything, but they chose to and signed a waiver to waive that right so the hearing could be held that same night,” said Schoen.

The waiver said that PBE waived their right to have seven days and the right to have a Procedural officer (FSILG Dean Marlena Martinez Love) at the hearing. There is no procedure for a waiver in the IFC Constitution, according to Shoen. However, they discussed the waiver with Love and decided it was okay from an administrative point of view because PBE had agreed to it.

4. Stolen Evidence?

PBE: Carhart’s letter says “an anonymous party provided the IFC Judicial Committee with circumstantial evidence stolen from our fraternity house.”

IFC: “We did take steps to corroborate the information that we find in the document and we did find it to be substantial,” Schoen said.

According to Schoen, PBE did not contest the authenticity of the document.

“Any complaint that we get, we’re going to follow through on, because the point of the IFC as a whole is to uphold their values and maintain accountability. So we’re less interested in how we get it,” Fritz said.

5. 60 day limit

IFC: “JudComm policies say that there are 60 Institute days between the time a complaint is filed and when we can follow up on it. There is no limitation for when an event happens. In this case, the evidence came in and we get 60 Institute days from that start time. Being that the implications of the evidence were so severe, they were put on interim action right away from the FSILG Office,” Fritz said.

“Being that the implications of the evidence were so severe, they were put on interim action right away...”

PBE: The JudComm Bylaws “definitely make that distinction... about the 60 days being 60 days from when the violation occurs and they must try the case within 120 days of when the evidence is presented to them.”

IFC JudComm Bylaws say in

Article VI(B): “Complaints must be filed within 60 Institute days of the violation. That deadline may be extended if legal or other extenuating circumstances require a delay. In case of extended delay, the accused organization(s) shall be notified of the likelihood of a complaint as early as possible.”

“Setting this precedent leads to a definite slippery slope. What’s an extenuating circumstance?” Naskar said.

6. A juror had a conflict of interest

IFC: Schoen said that the 4-person jury is randomly selected from those available at the scheduled hearing time. When they are informed of a hearing time, the fraternity involved is not mentioned. PBE submitted a request to not have certain fraternities represented in the panel because they were cross-rushing and they were worried that it would be a conflict of interest. Fritz dismissed this saying that it was not valid. It turns out that the request did not make a difference anyways because the randomly picked jury did not include those from the fra-

ternities mentioned by PBE.

PBE: “[The biased juror] was told early in his rush that he would not be given a bid [to PBE], and that he should look elsewhere,” Naskar said. Naskar tried to bring this conflict of interest up during the hearing but was told by Fritz that he was not allowed to speak.

Naskar tried to bring this conflict of interest up during the hearing but was told he couldn’t speak

“In the appeal decision letter, it said, ‘You had every opportunity during the process to bring it up.’ But no, that was incorrect,” Naskar said. “The other speaking members at the hearing are ’11’s now. As an ’09, I knew that he had been flushed. The ’11’s were not necessarily aware of that fact. That’s why I tried to speak up, but I was denied.”

7. Communication from MIT and PBE

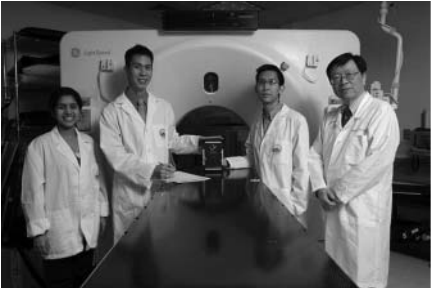
PBE: “Within an hour of that, they sent an email from Bob Ferrara [’67, Senior Director for Strategic Planning, Communications and Alumni Relations DSL] to our over 600-member alumni body. Within the same hour, a press release was put on the MIT News Office page. A few days later, parents received a letter from Dean Colombo himself. We were startled by the information before we could get it together to notify the rest of the brotherhood because there was no time. Within an hour, they all knew. They emailed the alumni body without the actives knowing. They mailed out to the parents without their sons knowing,” Naskar said.

Kerry A. Emanuel ’76, a professor of atmospheric science and PBE alumnus, said that he had heard from MIT before hearing from PBE.

IFC: Schoen and Fritz said they were not involved in the communication. The MIT News Office did not comment on the timing of the communication. David Kennedy (director of the Office of Student Citizenship), who was part of the appeals process, could not be reached for comment.

What are YOU doing during IAP?

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A program of the  ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

By Jennifer Rees
TEAM REPRESENTATIVE

With the two wins, MIT remains undefeated on the season, their record now 3-0. The Engineers next face Mount Holyoke College at home on Saturday.

—Greg McKeever, DAPER Staff

Leonard and the Engineers will next host Brown University on Friday, October 1 at 8 p.m. before traveling across town to take on rival Harvard University on Saturday afternoon.

Next, MIT will travel to Stevens Institute of Technology for the Ducks Invitational this weekend.

Sharon S. Hao '14 sets the ball as Emma S. Gargus '14 prepares to spike in the game against Springfield College on Tuesday. Despite winning the first set, the Engineers lost the game.

SIMPLE MATH

First find the question, then find the answer.

Don't let the name confuse you - very little of what we do here at APT is simple math. Dig deeper in the numbers to figure out the answer!

4*5-13-6 1*3*1*1*1 4*5 5*5-2*2 1*1

3*2*2 2*1*2*3

3*9-2 9*8-2-7*7 33-14

12-1-6 4*4-3 1*3*5 42-3*8

100-1-51-29 3*1*23-2*32 5*5*3-8*9 5*3*1 81-3*7-4*14 1*5

Solve the puzzle, win a prize (and maybe a job)!

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